The Humble Representation Of the House of Commons To the QUEEN.

With Her Majesty's Most Gracious Answer thereto.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE Your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, having nothing so much at Heart, as to enable Your Majesty to bring this long and expensive war to an honourable and happy Conclusion; have taken it into our most serious Consideration, how the necessary supplies to be provided by us, may be best applied, and how the common cause may in the most effectual manner be carried on by the united Force of the whole Confederacy. We have thought our selves obliged, in Duty to Your Majesty, and in Discharge of the Trust reposed in us, to enquire into the true state of the War in all its Parts; we have examin'd what stipulations have been entred into between Your Majesty and Your Allies, and how far such Engagements have on each side been made good; we have considered the different Interests which the Confederates have in the success of this War, and the different Shares they have contributed to its support; we have with our utmost Care and Diligence endeavour'd to discover the Nature, Extent, and Charge of it, to the end that by comparing the Weight thereof with our own Strength, we might adapt the one to the other in such Measure, as neither to continue your Majesty's Subjects under a heavier Burden than in Reason and Justice they ought to bear, nor deceive your Majesty, your Allies, and our selves, by undertaking more than the Nation in its present Circumstance is able to perform.

Your Majesty has been graciously pleased, upon our humble Applications, to order such Materials to be laid before us, as have furnish'd us with the necessary Information upon the Particulars we have enquir'd into; and when we shall have laid before Your Majesty our Observations and humble Advice upon this Subject, we promise to our selves this happy Fruit from it, That if Your Majesty's generous and good Purposes for the procuring a safe and lasting Peace should, through the Obstinacy of the Enemy, or by any other Means, be unhappily defeated; a true Knowlege and Understanding of the past Conduct of the War, will be the best Foundation for a more frugal and equal Management of it for the time to come.

In order to take the more perfect View of what we proposed, and that we might be able to set the whole before Your Majesty in a true Light, we have thought it necessary to go back to the beginning of the War, and beg leave to observe the Motives and Reasons upon which his late Majesty King William engag'd first in it. The Treaty of the Grand Alliance explains those Reasons to be for the supporting the Pretentions of his Imperial Majesty, then actually engag'd in a War with the French King, who had usurped the entire Spanish Monarchy for his Grandson the Duke of Anjou: And for the assisting the States General, who by the loss of their Barrier against France, were then in the same or a more dangerous Condition, than if they were actually invaded. As these were the just and necessary Motives for undertaking this War, so the Ends proposed to be obtained by it were equally Wise and Honourable: For as they were set forth in the Eighth Article in the same Treaty, they appear to have been, the Procuring an

equitable and reasonable Satisfaction to his Imperial Majesty, and sufficient Securities for the Dominions, Provinces, Navigation, and Commerce of the King of Great Britain and the States General; the Making effectual Provision that the two Kingdoms of Fr. and Sp. should never be united under the same Government, and particularly, that the Fr. should never get into the Possession of the Sp. W. Indies, or be permitted to sail thither upon the account of Traffick under any pretence whatsoever; and lastly, the securing to the Subjects of the K. o. Gr. Br. and the States-Gen. all the same Privileges and Rights of Commerce throughout the whole Dominions of Spain, as they enjoy'd before the Death of Charles the II. King of Spain, by Vertue of any Treaty, Agreement, Custom, or any other way whatsoever: For the obtaining these Ends, the three Confederated Powers engaged to assist one another with their whole Force, according to such Proportions as should be specified in a particular convention afterwards to be made for that purpose. We do not find that any such Convention was ever ratified; but it appears, that there was an Agreement concluded, which by common consent was understood to be binding upon each Party respectively, and according to which the Proportions of Great Britain were from the Beginning regulated and founded: The Terms of that Agreement were, That for the service at Land, his Imperial Majesty should furnish Ninety Thousand Men, the King of Great Britain Forty Thousand, and the States-General One Hundred and Two Thousand, of which there were Forty Two thousand intended to supply their Garrisons, and sixty Thousand to act against the common Enemy in the Field; and with regard to the Operations of the War at sea, they were agreed to be perform'd Jointly by Great Britain and the States-General; the Quota of Ships to be furnish for that service, being five Eights on the part of Great Britain, and three Eights on the part of the States-General.

Upon this Foot the War began in the Year 1702. at which time the whole yearly Expence of it to England, amounted to three Millions, seven Hundred and six Thousand four Hundred ninety four Pounds; a very great charge, as it was then thought by Your Majesty's Subjects, after the short interval of ease they had enjoy'd from the Burden of the former War; but yet a very moderate proportion in comparison with the Load which hath since been laid upon them; for it appears, by Estimates given into Your Commons, that the sums necessary to carry on the service for this present Year, in the same manner as it was performed the last Year, amount to more than six Millions, nine Hundred and sixty Thousand Pounds, besides Interest for the Publick Debt, and the Deficiencies arising the last Year; which two Articles require One Million, one Hundred and forty three thousand Pounds more: So that the whole Demands upon Your Commons, are arisen to more than Eight Millions for the present annual Supply. We know Your Majesty's tender regard for the Welfare of Your People, will make it uneasie to You to hear of so great a Pressure as this upon them; and as we are assured it will fully convince Your Majesty of the Necessity of our present Enquiry, so we beg Leave to Represent to You from what causes, and by what steps, this immense charge appears to have grown upon us.

The service at sea as it hath been very large and extensive in it self, so it hath been carried on thro the whole course of the War, in a manner highly disadvantageous to your Majesty and Your Kingdom; for the necessity of Affairs requiring, that great Fleets should be fitted out every Year, as well for the maintaining a superiority in the Mediterranean, as for opposing any Force which the Enemy might prepare, either at Dunkirk or in the Ports of West France, Your Majesty's Example and Readiness in fitting out your proportion of Ships for all Parts of that service, have been so far from prevailing with the States-General to keep pace with you, that they have been Dificient every Year to a great Degree, in Proportion to what your Majesty hath furnished, sometimes no less than two Thirds, and generally more than Half of their Quota. From hence your Ma-

Majesty has been obliged, for the preventing Disappointments in the most pressing Services, to supply those Deficiencies by additional Reinforcements of your own Ships: Nor hath the single Increase of such a Charge been the only ill Consequence that attended it; for by this Means, the Debt of the Navy hath been inhanced, so that the Discounts arising upon the Credit of it, have affected all other Parts of the Service; from the same Cause, your Majesty's Ships of War have been forced in greater Numbers to continue in remote Seas, and at unseasonable Times of the year, to the great Damage and Decay of the British Navy: This also hath been the Occasion, that your Majesty hath been straightned in your Convoys for Trade, your Coasts have been exposed for want of a sufficient Number of Cruizers to guard them, and you have been disabled from annoying the Enemy in their most beneficial Commerce with the West-Indies, from whence they have received those vast Supplies of Treasure, without which, they could not have supported the Expences of this War.

That Part of the War which hath been carried on in Flanders, was at first immediately necessary to the Security of the States General, and hath since brought them great Acquisitions both of Revenue and Dominion: Yet even there, the original Proportions have been departed from, and during the Course of the War, have been sinking by Degrees on the Part of Holland; so that, in the last Year, we find the Number in which they fell short of their Three Fifths to Your Majesty's Two Fifths, to have been Twenty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Thirty Seven Men: We are not unmindful, That in the Year 1703, a Treaty was made between the Two Nations, for a joint Augmentation of Twenty Thousand Men wherein the Proportions were varied, and England consented to take half upon it self: But it having been annexed, as an express Condition to the Grant of the said Augmentation in Parliament, That the States-General should prohibit all Trade and Commerce with France; and that Condition having not been perform'd by them, the Commons think it reasonable, that the first Rule of Three to Two ought to have taken Place again, as well in that as in other subsequent Augmentations; more especially when they consider, that the Revenues of those rich Provinces which have been conquered, would, if they were duly applied, maintain a great Number of new additional Forces against the common Enemy, notwithstanding which, the States-General have raised none upon that Account, but make use of those fresh Supplies of Money, only to ease themselves in the Charge of their first Establish'd Quota.

As in the Progress of the War in Flanders, a Disproportion was soon created, to the Prejudice of England, so the very Beginning of the War in Portugal brought an unequal Share of Burden upon us. For, although the Emperor and the States-General were equally Parties with Your Majesty in the Treaty with the King of Portugal, yet the Emperor neither furnishing his Third Part of the Troops and Subsidies stipulated for, nor the Dutch consenting to take an equal Share of his Imperial Majesty's Defect upon themselves, Your Majesty hath been obliged to furnish Two Thirds of the entire Expence created by that Service. Nor has the Inequality stopped there; for ever since the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Six, when the English and Dutch Forces marched out of Portugal into Castile, the States General have entirely abandon'd the War in Portugal, and left Your Majesty to prosecute it singly at your own Charge, which You have accordingly done, by replacing a greater Number of Troops there, than even at first You took upon You to provide. At the same time Your Majesty's generous Endeavours for the Support and Defence of the King of Portugal have been but ill seconded by that Prince himself; for notwithstanding that by his Treaty he had obliged himself to furnish Twelve Thousand Foot and Three Thousand Horse upon his own account, besides eleven Thousand Foot, and Two Thousand Horse more, in Consideration of a Subsidy paid to him; yet, according to the best Information Your Commons can procure, it appears, That he hath scarce at any time furnish'd Thirteen Thousand Men in the whole.

In Spain the War hath been yet more unequal and burthensome to Your Majesty, than in any other Branch of it; for being commenced without any Treaty whatsoever, the Allies have almost wholly declined taking any Part of it upon themselves. A small Body of English and Dutch Troops were sent thither in the Year 1705, not as being thought sufficient to support a Regular War, or to make the Conquest of so large a Country, but with a View only of assisting the Spaniards to set King

Charles upon the Throne, occaſioned by the great Aſſurances which were given of their Inclinations to the Houſe of Auſtria: But this Expectation failing, England was inſenſibly drawn into an Eſtabliſhed War, under all the Diſadvantages of the Diſtance of the Place, and the feeble Efforts of the other Allies. The Account we have to lay before Your Majeſty, upon this Head, is, That altho' this Undertaking was enter'd upon at the particular and earneſt Requeſt of the Imperial Court, and for a Cauſe of no leſs Importance and Concern to them, than the Reducing the Spaniſh Monarchy to the Houſe of Auſtria; yet neither the late Emperor, nor his preſent Imperial Majeſty, have ever had any Forces there on their own Account, till the laſt Year, and then only one Regiment of Foot, conſiſting of Two Thouſand Men. Tho' the States-General have contributed ſomething more to this Service, yet their ſhare alſo hath been inconſiderable; for in the ſpace of Four Years, from 1705, to 1707, both inclusive, all the Forces they have ſent into that Country, have not exceeded Twelve Thouſand Two Hundred Men; and from the Year 1708, to this Time, they have not ſent any Forces or Recruits whatſoever. To Your Majeſty's Care and Charge, the Recovery of that Kingdom hath been in a manner wholly left, as if none elſe were intereſted or concerned in it: And the Forces which Your Majeſty hath ſent into Spain, in the ſpace of ſeven Years, from One Thouſand ſeven hundred and Five, to One Thouſand ſeven Hundred and Eleven, both inclusive, have amounted to no leſs than Fifty Seven Thouſand Nine Hundred Seventy Three Men, beſides Thirteen Battalions and Eighteen Squadrons, for which Your Majeſty hath paid a Subſidy to the Emperor. How great the eſtabliſhed Expence of ſuch a Number of Men hath been, Your Majeſty very well knows, and Your Commons very ſenſibly feel: But the Weight will be found much greater, when it is conſidered how many heavy Articles of unuſual and extraordinary Charge have attended this remote and difficult Service; all which have been entirely defrayed by Your Majeſty, except that one of Tranſporting the few Forces which were ſent by the States General, and the Victualing of them, during their Tranſportation only. The Accounts delivered to Your Commons ſhew, That the Charge of Your Majeſty's Ships and Veſſels, employed in the Service of the War in Spain and Portugal, reckon'd after the Rate of Four Pounds a Man, per Month, from the time they ſailed from hence, till they returned, were loſt, or put upon other Services, hath amounted to ſix Millions, Five Hundred and Forty Thouſand, Nine hundred and ſixty ſix Pounds, Fourteen ſhillings. The Charge of Tranſports on the Part of Great Britain, for carrying on the War in *Spain* and *Portugal*, from the Beginning of it till this time, hath amounted to One Million, Three Hundred Thirty ſix Thouſand, ſeven Hundred and Nineteen Pounds, Nineteen Shillings, and Eleven Pence. That of Victualing Land Forces for the ſame Service, to Five Hundred Eighty Three Thouſand, ſeven Hundred and ſeventy Pounds, Eight Shillings, and ſix Pence; and that of Contingencies and other Extraordinaries for the ſame ſervice, to One Million, Eight Hundred and Forty Thouſand, Three Hundred Fifty Three Pounds.

We ſhould take Notice to Your Majeſty, of ſeveral Sums paid upon Account of Contingencies and Extraordinaries in Flanders, making together the Sum of One Million, One Hundred and Seven Thouſand, Ninety Six Pounds: But we are not able to make any Compariſon of them, with what the States-General have expended upon the ſame Head, having no ſuch State of their extraordinary Charge before us. There remains, therefore, but one Particular more for Your Majeſty's Obſervation, which ariſes from the Subſidies paid to Foreign Princes: Theſe, at the Beginning of the War, were borne in equal Proportion by Your Majeſty and the States-General; but in this Inſtance alſo the Balance hath been caſt in Prejudice of Your Majeſty: For it appears, That Your Majeſty hath ſince advanced more than Your equal Proportion, Three Millions, One Hundred and Fifty Five Thouſand Crowns, beſides Extraordinaries paid in Italy, and not included in any of the foregoing Articles, which ariſe to Five Hundred Thirty Nine Thouſand, Five Hundred Fifty Three Pounds.

We have laid theſe ſeveral Particulars before Your Majeſty, in the ſhorteſt Manner we have been able; and by an Eſtimate grounded on the preceding Facts, it does appear, That over and above the Quotas on the Part of Great Britain, anſwering to

thoſe contributed by Your Allies, more than Nineteen Millions have been expended by Your Majeſty during the Courſe of this War, by way of Surplulage or Exceeding, in Balance of which, none of the Confederates have furniſhed any thing whatſoever.

It is with very great Concern, that we find ſo much Occaſion given us to repreſent, how ill an Uſe hath been made of Your Majeſty's and Your Subjects Zeal for the Common Cauſe, that the Intereſt of that Cauſe hath not been proportionably promoted by it, but others only have been eaſed at Your Majeſty's and Your Subjects Coſt, and have been connived at in laying their Part of the Burden upon this Kingdom, altho' they have upon all Accounts been equally, and in moſt reſpects, much more nearly concern'd than Britain, in the Iſſue of the War. We are perſuaded, Your Majeſty will think it pardonable in us, with ſome Reſentment to complain of the little Regard which ſome of thoſe, whom Your Majeſty of late Years entruſted, have ſhewn to the Intereſts of their Country, in giving way, at leaſt, to ſuch unreaſonable Impoſitions upon it, if not in ſome Meaſure contriving them: The Courſe of which Impoſitions hath been ſo ſingular and extraordinary, that the more the Wealth of this Nation hath been exhauſted, and the more Your Majeſty's Arms have been attended with ſucceſs, the heavier hath been the Burden laid upon us; whilſt on the other hand, the more vigorous Your Majeſty's Efforts have been, and the greater the Advantages which have redounded thence to your Allies, the more thoſe Allies have abated in their ſhare of the Expence.

At the firſt Entrance into this War, the Commons were induced to exert themſelves in the extraordinary Manner they did, and to grant ſuch large ſupplies, as had been unknown to former Ages, in hopes thereby to prevent the miſchiefs of a lingring War, and to bring that, in which they were neceſſarily engaged, to a ſpeedy concluſion: But they have been very unhappy in the Event, whilſt they have ſo much Reaſon to ſuſpect, That what was intended to ſhorten the War, hath proved the very cauſe of its long continuance; for thoſe to whom the Profits of it have accrued, have not been diſpoſed eaſily to forego them: And Your Majeſty will from thence diſcern the true Reaſon, why ſo many have delighted in a War, which brought in ſo rich an Harveſt Yearly from Great Britain.

We are as far from deſiring, as we know Your Majeſty will be from concluding, any Peace, but upon ſafe and honourable Terms; And we are far from intending to excuſe our ſelves from raiſing all neceſſary and poſſible ſupplies for an effectual Proſecution of the War, till ſuch a Peace can be obtained. All that Your faithful Commons aim at, All that they wiſh, is, an equal concurrence from the other Powers engaged in Alliance with Your Majeſty, and a juſt Application of what hath been already gained from the Enemy towards promoting the common-cauſe. Several large countries and Territories have been reſtored to the Houſe of Auſtria; ſuch as the Kingdom of Naples, the Dutchy of Milan, and other Places in Italy: Others have been conquered, and added to their Dominions, as the Two Electorates of Bavaria and Cologn, the Dutchy of Mantua, and the Biſhoprick of Liege; Theſe having been reduced in great Meaſure by our Blood and Treaſure, may, we humbly conceive, with great Reaſon, be claimed to come in Aid towards carrying on the War in Spain; And therefore we make it our earneſt Requeſt to your Majeſty, That You will give Inſtructions to your Miniſters to inſiſt with the Emperor, that the Revenues of thoſe ſeveral Places, excepting only ſuch a Portion thereof as is neceſſary for their Defence, be actually ſo applied. And as to the other Parts of the War, to which Your Majeſty hath obliged your ſelf by particular Treaties to contribute, we humbly beſeech your Majeſty, That You will be pleaſed to take effectual care that your Allies do perform their Parts ſtipulated by thoſe Treaties; And that your Majeſty will, for the future, no otherwiſe furniſh Troops or pay Subſidies, than in Proportion to what your Allies ſhall actually furniſh

nish and pay. When this Justice is done to your Majesty, and to your People, there is nothing which your Commons will not chearfully grant, towards supporting your Majesty in the cause in which you are engaged. And whatever farther shall appear to be necessary for carrying on the War, either at Sea or Land, we will effectually enable your Majesty to bear your reasonable Share of any such Expence, and will spare no Supplies which your Subjects are able, with their utmost Efforts to afford.

After having enquired into, and considered the States of the War, in which the Part Your Majesty has borne, appears to have been not only superior to that of any one Ally, but even equal to that of the whole Confederacy; Your Commons naturally inclined to hope, that they should find, Care had been taken of securing some particular Advantages to Britain, in the Terms of a future Peace; such as might afford a Prospect of making the Nation amends in time for that immense Treasure which hath been expended, and those heavy Debts which have been contracted in the course of so long and burthensome a War. This reasonable Expectation could no way have been better answered, than by some Provision made for the farther Security, and the greater Improvement, of the Commerce of Great Britain: But we find ourselves so very far disappointed in these Hopes, that in a Treaty not long since concluded between Your Majesty and the States-General under Colour of a mutual Guaranty given for two Points of the greatest Importance to both Nations, the Succession and the Barrier, it appears, the Interest of Great Britain hath been not only neglected, but sacrificed; and that several Articles in the said Treaty are destructive to the Trade and welfare of this Kingdom, and therefore highly dishonourable to Your Majesty.

Your Commons observe, in the first place, That several Towns and Places are, by Virtue of this Treaty, to be put into the Hands of the States General; particularly Newport, Dendermond, and the Castle of Ghent; which can, in no sense, be look'd upon as Part of a Barrier against France; but being the Keys of the Netherlands towards Britain, must make the Trade of Your Majesty's Subjects in those Parts precarious; and whenever the States think fit, totally exclude them from it. The pretended Necessity of putting these Places into the Hands of the States-General, in order to secure to them a Communication with their Barrier, must appear vain and groundless: For the sovereignty of the Low-Countries being not to remain to an Enemy, but to a Friend and an Ally, that Communication must be always secure, and uninterrupted: Besides that, in Case of a Rupture, or an Attack, the States have full Liberty allowed them to take Possession of all the Spanish Netherlands, and therefore needed no particular Stipulation for the Towns above-mentioned.

Having taken Notice of this Concession made to the States-General for seizing upon the whole Ten Provinces, we cannot but observe to Your Majesty, That in the manner this Article is framed, it is another dangerous Circumstance which attends this Treaty: For had such a Provision been confined to the Case of an apparent Attack from France only, the avowed Design of this Treaty had been fulfilled, and your Majesty's Instructions to Your Ambassador had been pursued: But this necessary Restriction hath been omitted; and the same Liberty is granted to the States to take Possession of all the Netherlands, whenever they shall think themselves attack'd by any other Neighbouring Nation, as when they shall be in danger from France; so that, if it should at any time happen (which Your Commons are very unwilling to suppose) that they should quarrel even with Your Majesty, the Riches, Strength, and advantageous Situation of these Countries may be made use of against Your self, without whose generous and powerful Assistance they had never been conquered.

To return to those ill Consequences which relate to the Trade of Your Kingdoms, we beg Leave to observe to Your Majesty, That tho' this Treaty revives and renders Your Majesty a Party to the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Articles of the Treaty of Munster, by Vertue of which, the Impositions upon all Goods and Merchandizes brought into the Spanish Low-Countries by the Sea, are to equal those laid on Goods and Merchandizes imported by the Scheld, and the Canals of Sals and Swyn, and other Mouths of the sea adjoining; Yet no

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care is taken to preserve that Equality upon the Exportation of those Goods out of the Spanish Provinces, into those Countries and Places, which by Virtue of this Treaty are to be in the Possession of the States. The Consequence of which must in time be, and Your Commons are informed that in some Instances it has already proved to be the Case, that the Impositions upon Goods carried into those Countries and Places by the Subjects of the States-General, will be taken off, whilst those upon the Goods imported by Your Majesty's Subjects remain, by which means Great Britain will entirely lose this most beneficial Branch of Trade, which it hath been in all Ages possess'd of, even from the Time when those Countries were govern'd by the House of Burgundy, one of the most ancient, as well as the most useful, Allies to the Crown of England.

With regard to the other Dominions and Territories of Spain, Your Majesty's Subjects have always been distinguish'd in their Commerce with them, and both by ancient Treaties and uninterrupted Custom, have enjoyed greater Privileges and Immunities of Trade, than either the Hollanders or any other Nation whatsoever. And that wise and excellent Treaty of the Grand Alliance provides effectually for the Security and Continuance of those valuable Privileges to Britain, in such a Manner, as that each Nation might be left at the End of the War upon the same Foot as it stood at the Commencement of it. But this Treaty we now complain of, instead of confirming Your Subjects Rights, surrenders and destroys them: For, altho' by the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Article of the Treaty of Munster, made between his Catholick Majesty and the States-General, all Advantages of Trade are stipulated for, and granted to the Hollanders, equal to what the English enjoyed; yet, the Crown of England not being a Party to that Treaty, the Subjects of England have never submitted to those Articles of it, nor even the Spaniards themselves ever observed them: But this Treaty revives those Articles in Prejudice of Great Britain, and makes Your Majesty a Party to them, and even a Guarantee to the States General for Privileges against Your own People.

In how deliberate and extraordinary a Manner your Majesty's Ambassador consented to deprive your Subjects of their ancient Rights, and your Majesty of the Power of procuring to them any new Advantage, most evidently appears from his own Letters, which, by your Majesty's Directions, have been laid before your Commons: For when Matters of Advantage to your Majesty and to your Kingdom had been offered as proper to be made Parts of this Treaty, they were refused to be admitted by the States-General, upon this Reason and Principle, That nothing Foreign to the Guaranties of the Succession, and of the Barrier, should be mingled with them; notwithstanding which, the States-General had no sooner received Notice of a Treaty of Commerce concluded between your Majesty and the present Emperor, but they departed from the Rule proposed before, and insisted upon the Article of which your Commons now complain, which Article your Majesty's Ambassador allowed of, altho' equally Foreign to the Succession, or the Barrier; and altho' he had for that Reason departed from other Articles which would have been for the Service of his own Country.

We have forborn to trouble Your Majesty with general Observations upon this Treaty, as it relates to, and effects the Empire, and other Parts of Europe. The Mischiefs which arise from it to Great Britain are what only we have presumed humbly to represent to You. As they are very evident, and very great; and as it appears that the Lord Viscount Townshend had not any Orders or Authority for concluding several of these Articles which are most prejudicial to your Majesty's Subjects, we have thought we could do no less, than declare your said Ambassador, who Negotiated and signed, and all others who advised the Ratifying of this Treaty, Enemies to your Majesty and your Kingdom.

Upon

Upon these faithful Informations and Advices from your Commons, we assure our selves, your Majesty, in your great Goodness to your People, will rescue them from those Evils, which the private Counsels of ill-designing Men have exposed them to; And that in your great Wisdom you will find some Means for the explaining and amending the several Articles of this Treaty, so as that they may consist with the interest of Great Britain, and with a real and lasting Friendship between your Majesty and the States-General.

Her Majesty's Most Gracious Answer.

THIS Representation is a farther Instance of that Dutiful Affection to My Service, and Concern for the Publick Interest, which this House of Commons has always shewn.

YOU may be assured, That I will give such Orders, as shall effectually answer what *You* desire of ME in every Particular.

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